

HLB Weekly Newsletter

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GOVERNMENT RELATIONS & PUBLIC POLICY

Your weekly dose of health care policy

CONGRESSIONAL

E&C Releases 340B Report

On Jan 10, the House Energy & Commerce Committee released their [340B report](#), which calls for an overhaul of the 340B program, stating that it has ballooned in size in recent years without proper government oversight. The report, which follows a two year investigation by the committee, recommends that Congress more clearly define the program's purpose and add reporting requirements for participating hospitals.

ADMINISTRATION

MACRA HIGHLIGHTS

Last Thursday, MedPAC voted 14-2 in favor of recommending Congress eliminate MIPS. In their [presentation](#), they criticized the program, calling it "burdensome and complex".

HEALTH CARE ACTIVITIES ON THE HILL

House Ways and Means
Committee

CMMI Announces BPCI Model

On Jan 9, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) announced the launch of a new voluntary bundled payment model called [Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Advanced \(BPCI Advanced\)](#). Under this bundled payment model, participants can earn additional payment if all expenditures for a beneficiary's episode of care are under a spending target that factors quality. Applications are due to their [Application Portal](#) by March 12.

CMS is also holding an Open Door Forum on this issue on Tuesday, Jan 30, 12:00-1:00pm ET. To register, you can do so [here](#).

CMS Issues Medicaid Work Guidance

On Jan 11, CMS released [guidance](#) on allowing states to establish work requirements for able-bodied Medicaid beneficiaries. The proposal would exclude individuals eligible for Medicaid due to disability, elderly, children, and pregnant women.

FDA Releases Policy Roadmap

On Jan 11, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released their [2018 Strategic Policy Roadmap](#). Many of the efforts mentioned are already underway, and will be further advanced in 2018, while other policies outlined in the document will be initiated in the coming months.

1/17 at 10:00am: Oversight Subcommittee hearing on [The Opioid Crisis: The Current Landscape and CMS Actions to Prevent Opioid Misuse](#).

House Energy & Commerce Committee

1/17 at 10:00am: Health Subcommittee markup of [H.R. 1876, H.R. 2026, and H.R. Over the Counter Monograph Safety, Innovation, and Reform Act of 2018](#).

Senate Finance Committee

1/17 at 10:00am: [Open Executive Session to Consider the Nomination of Alex Azar II and Keven McAleenan and Subcommittee Assignments](#).

Senate HELP Committee

1/17 at 10:00am: Full Committee hearing on [Facing 21st Century Public Health Threats: Our Nation's Preparedness and Response Capabilities, Part I](#).

Senate Homeland Security and Government

Affairs Committee

1/17 at 10am: Full Committee hearing on the [Unintended Consequences: Medicaid and the Opioid Epidemic](#).

WEEKLY TRIVIA

What presidential candidate had

trouble getting
verified on Twitter?
Click [here](#) to find the
answer.

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